

Using the Manual

THIS MANUAL IS WRITTEN TO BE A PRACTICAL FIELD GUIDE for forest landowners, logging contractors and forest industry, to ensure water quality during forestry operations. It sets forth the voluntary guidelines and procedures to be followed for each operation and describes the federally mandated Best Management Practices (BMPs) for forestry operations in wetlands. Each chapter is written as a stand-alone guide. BMPs common to several operations will appear with each.

In using this manual the information it provides can be divided into four basic parts:

- **Voluntary guidelines, pages 3–29:** Each forestry activity is described and the BMPs associated with that activity are stated.
- **Mandated guidelines, pages 30–49:** Discusses the issue of forest wetlands and sets forth the federally mandated BMPs applicable to forest operations in wetlands. Forest operations in the Louisiana Natural and Scenic Rivers System are also discussed.
- **Glossary, pages 50–54:** Definition of terms used to describe the activities presented in this manual.
- **Recommended examples & tools, pages 55–83:** Detailed examples and tools for implementing the BMPs previously described.